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mistatements and misrepresentations in the Doctor's book were to be exposed, an explanation of the offensive phrase was deemed a necessary introduction, that so the candour and fairness of the Rev. body might appear in a favourable light. This was the more expedient, as the Doctor had charged the Synod with dissingenuity in not attending to his very reasonable application. How far the circumstances justified this change of measures every candid man will judge.

Well : having now thought it convenient, on their own account, to explain their own language, what sort of explanation do they give? They might, I think, with great propriety, have said that this late Synod could not stand accountable for all the expressions of a former Synod. They might, without loss of character, have acknowledged that they conceived the term *implicated* too strong for the Doctor's case, inasmuch as he had never been charged with seditious or treasonable practices, nor brought to trial. This would have been truth and justice. But how do they proceed? Why,—they go on to attach a meaning to the offensive phrase, which no judge of language can, in fairness, acknowledge it can bear. While they really acquit the Doctor of having been “implicated in treasonable or seditious practices,” inasmuch as they allege, though without proof of

any kind, that he was confined only on *suspicion* of treason or sedition, they retain the expression and endeavour to explain it away. The Synod had no proof, on which to ground a minute, that he was confined even on *suspicion* of treason or sedition. Government did not publicly say so; and surely, therefore, the Synod had not authority even for saying that the Doctor was *suspected* by government. This might have been the case; but there is no official document by which it can be proved. In my mind, therefore, the Synod should have acknowledged that it appeared to them that the expression “implicated,” &c. was too strong, and that it might be amended thus:—“that two persons belonging to the body were confined by government.” This would have been true; and by such language they never could have been accused of partiality by the world.

With regard to the mis-statements alleged against the Doctor, this is another matter. And even though he should be able to show that he was misinformed, this will not justify his conduct in traducing a public body, whose character should be so sacred in the eye of the world. But I wait with impatience for Dr. Black's statement, and in the mean time am

Yours truly,
A LOVER OF TRUTH.

SIGNATURES OBTAINED TO THE PETITION OF PROTESTANTS IN FAVOUR OF CATHOLIC EMANCIPATION.

Signatures obtained at Downpatrick.

Adam Martin
Robert Davidson
William Hanna
Samuel Thompson
Gordon Bigham
James Quail
Thomas M^r Kelvey
Joseph Robinson

James Crawford
Wm. Sharman, Waringstown
John Wallace
Aynsworth Pillson
John Lowry, Killileagh
Samuel Woods
William Dunlap
Overstreet Carson

Thos. Jackson, Portaferry
William Hastings, Down
Thomas Nevin,
Alexander Miller
John Miller
James Hastings
James Curry.

Additional Signatures at Colerain.

John Long

James Nimock.

*Errors in the former List from Colerain.*For Daniel Dunlop, read
David DunlopFor Wm. Nimcock, read
Wm. Nimock.

PUBLIC OCCURRENCES.

ACCOUNT OF THE ERUPTION OF THE SOUFFRIER MOUNTAIN, IN THE ISLAND OF ST. VINCENT.

ABOUT 2000 feet from the level of the sea calculating from conjecture), on the south side of the Souffrier Mountain, and rather more than two-thirds of its height, opens a circular chasm, somewhat exceeding half a mile in diameter, and between 4 or 500 feet in depth: exactly in the centre of this capacious bowl, rose a conical hill, about 260 or 300 feet in height, and about 200 in diameter, richly covered and variegated with shrubs, brushwood, and vines, above half way up, and for the remainder powdered over with virgin sulphur to the top. From the fissures in the cone and interstices of the rocks, a thin white smoke was constantly emitted, occasionally tinged with a slight blueish flame. The precipitous sides of this magnificent amphitheatre were fringed with various evergreens and aromatic shrubs, flowers, and many Alpine plants. On the north and south sides of the base of the cone were two pieces of water, one perfectly pure and tasteless, and the other strongly impregnated with sulphur and alum. This lonely and beautiful spot was rendered more enchanting by the singularly melodious notes of a bird, an inhabitant of these upper solitudes, and altogether unknown to the other parts of the island: hence principally called, or supposed to be, invisible; though it certainly has been seen, and is a species of the merle.

A century had already elapsed since the last convulsion of the mountain; it apparently slumbered in primeval solitude and tranquillity; but just as the plantation bells rang 12 at noon on Monday the 27th, an abrupt and dreadful crash from the mountain, with a severe concussion of the earth, and tremulous noise in the air, alarmed all around it. The resurrection of

this fiery furnace was proclaimed in a moment, by a vast column of thick, black, rosey smoke, like that of an immense glass-house, bursting forth at once, and mounting to the sky; showering down sand, with gritty calcined particles of earth and favilla mixed, on all below. This, driven before the wind towards Wallibon and Morne Ronde, darkened the air like a cataract of rain, and covered the ridges, woods, and cane-pieces, with light grey-coloured ashes, resembling snow when slightly covered by dust. As the eruption increased, this continual shower expanded, destroying every appearance of vegetation. At night a very considerable degree of ignition was observed on the lips of the crater; but it is not asserted, that there was yet any visible ascension of flame.

The awful scene became more terrific on Tuesday and Wednesday; and on Thursday the 30th of April, the reflection of the rising sun on this majestic body of curling vapour was sublime beyond imagination. In the afternoon the noise was incessant, and resembled the approach of thunder still nearer and nearer, with a vibration that affected the feelings and hearing: as yet there was no convulsive motion, or sensible earthquake. Terror and consternation now seized all beholders. The Charaibes, settled at Morne Ronde, at the foot of the Souffrier, abandoned their houses, with their live stock, and every thing they possessed, and fled precipitately towards the town. The Negroes became confused, forsook their work, looked up to the mountain, and as it shook, trembled with the dread of what they could neither understand nor describe—the birds fell to the ground, overpowered with showers of favilla, unable to keep themselves on the wing; the cattle were starving for want of food, as not a blade of grass, or a leaf, was now to be found—the sea was much discoloured, but in no wise uncommonly agitated; and it is re-